

Examiner David Fidei  
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## CLAIMS

1-10. (Canceled).

11. (Original) A mattress package comprising:

a barrier layer which substantially encloses a mattress, the barrier layer having first and second sheets dimensioned to cover major surfaces of the mattress, the first and second sheets of material also extending over a border of the mattress, and being attached together;

a perimeter piece attached to the barrier layer about a perimeter of the mattress and proximate to a border of the mattress, the perimeter piece in the form of a continuous band of material with a length at least equal to or greater than the perimeter of the mattress, and with a width at least equal to or greater than a width of the mattress border.

12. (Previously Presented) The mattress package of claim 11 wherein the sheets of the barrier layer are sealed together by a seal and the perimeter piece extends over the seal.

13. (Original) The mattress package of claim 11 wherein the sheets of the barrier layer are joined to form a bag in which the mattress is positioned.

14. (Original) The mattress package of claim 11 wherein a thickness of the perimeter piece is greater than a thickness of the barrier layer.

15. (Original) The mattress package of claim 11 wherein the perimeter piece is adhesively bonded to the barrier layer.

16. (Original) The mattress package of claim 11 wherein the perimeter piece extends over the barrier layer over the border of the mattress and over a portion of the first and second sheets of the barrier layer.

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17. (Canceled).
18. (Original) The mattress package of claim 11 wherein the perimeter piece extends over a thermally formed seal of the first and second sheets of the barrier layer.
19. (Original) The mattress package of claim 11 wherein the perimeter piece fits substantially tightly against the border of the mattress over the barrier layer.
20. (Original) The mattress package of claim 11 wherein the perimeter piece has indicia on an outside surface of the perimeter piece.
- 21-24. (Canceled).
25. (Original) A mattress package comprising, in combination:
  - a mattress having spaced apart planar sides and a border which extends between the spaced apart planar sides and which is located at a perimeter of the mattress;
  - a barrier layer which substantially encapsulates the spaced apart planar sides and the border of the mattress;
  - a perimeter piece positioned about the border of the mattress and substantially covering the border and extending at least partially over a portion of each of the spaced apart planar sides of the mattress.
26. (Original) The mattress package of claim 25 wherein the barrier layer is placed directly against exterior surfaces of the mattress.
27. (Original) The mattress package of claim 25 wherein the perimeter piece is located internal to the barrier layer.

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28. (Original) The mattress package of claim 25 further comprising an adhesive in combination with the perimeter piece.
29. (Original) The mattress package of claim 28 wherein the perimeter piece is adhesively secured to at least a portion of the mattress.
30. (Original) The mattress package of claim 28 wherein the perimeter piece is adhesively secured to at least a portion of the barrier layer.